EDITOR
25 APR 95
BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL

STAINES
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S
ANNUAL REPORT,
1894.

ALBERT CURTIS,
Medical Officer.

Staines:
C. E. Melson, Printer, High Street.

1895.

THIS BEING THE SPECIAL FILE COPY FOR LIBRARY B. M. A., IT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED THAT IT MAY BE RETURNED AT AS EARLY A DATE AS POSSIBLE.

Editor of the British Medical Journal

STAINES
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S
ANNUAL REPORT,
1894.

ALBERT CURTIS,
Medical Officer.

Staines:
C. E. Melson, Printer, High Street.

1895.

STAINES
Urban District Council.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS.

GENTLEMEN,—

I beg to submit the Annual Report for 1894 of the sickness and mortality of the Parish of Staines, being the Urban District of the Staines Union.

The area of the Parish is 1,842 acres of land and 74 acres of water, the latter being much increased for a time by the floods.

The population is estimated at 5,186.

The number of births registered is 129—boys, 58; girls, 71.

The deaths for the year are 61, including 4 from the workhouse, of Staines parishioners. The workhouse is about 2 miles from the town in the parish of Stanwell.

The death-rate per 1.000 of the population is 11·76.

The deaths from phthisis were 6; bronchitis, pneumonia and pleurisy 9; heart disease 7, and from injury 1.

The notifications of infectious diseases from various causes are indicated on a separate form. There were 31 reported; from scarlet fever 25; diphtheria 3; erysipelas 3.

The deaths from zymotic diseases were 9; namely, from scarlet fever 3; erysipelas 1; measles 1; whooping cough 4.

The nuisances inspected during the year were 85, and the usual measures taken to abate them have been promptly adopted in each case. They were caused by the following usual defects, principally full cesspools, closets and drains stopped up, sink drains blocked, pigs kept in an unclean state, manure pits overfull, unclean walls and ceilings in houses, overflowing drains, rooms disinfected and cleansed after infectious diseases, manure heaps requiring removal. Also bath waste pipe in direct communication with drain, joints of soil pipe unsound, dust bins requiring emptying or containing offensive matter, slaughter-houses requiring lime whiting. A few wells had to be closed on account of the water being impure, and, Company's laid on. The lodging-house was condemned as structurally unfit for habitation, and closed on the 13th July under the "Housing of the Working Classes Act."

The sewerage of the parish, which has been a serious matter for consideration for years, is in a fair way of being duly accomplished.

The floods have been most disastrous this year. The Thames began to rise in October after heavy rainfall, and on the 1st November stood at 2 feet 7 inches. The greatest height was on 17th November, being 6ft 8 or 9 inches, and was only exceeded by the flood on the 17th December 1821, when it was 7 feet. The river subsided to its normal height about the 27th November. I have before advocated a building line to avoid new houses being built so near the ground as to render them liable to be invaded by floods. It is obvious that the danger to health, the damage to walls, floors and furniture must be extensive.

Of course floods cannot be entirely prevented, but it must be possible to diminish the depth materially by the weirs being simultaneously lowered when it appears that a serious rise may be expected from rain in the whole Thames Valley.

There is no isolation hospital for the treatment of any infectious diseases; in my opinion this should be considered by the Council. One great object is, to so far as can be, treat the first cases so as to prevent or limit an epidemic. Competent nurses could then take charge of a number under conditions most favourable to their recovery, and when convalescent, their clothing and bedding could be effectively disinfected.

Taking into consideration the difficulty of obtaining suitable sites for a hospital in individual parishes, it would appear that the completion of the Central Hospital, begun and partly erected on the Workhouse field some years ago, offers the best solution of the difficulty, as it is well isolated from other houses.

I may mention also that at the Workhouse itself there has been great difficulty occasionally in dealing with infectious cases that have been brought there by vagrants or others.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ALBERT CURTIS,

Medical Officer of Health.

7th February, 1895.

NOTIFICATION
OF
INFECTIOUS DISEASES,
1894.

Date.	Name.	Locality.	Disease.	Result.
Feb. 8	C.T.	London Road	Scarlet Fever	Recovered
,, 13	T.G.	Church Street	Diphtheria	,,
April 7	Mrs. O.	,,	,,	,,
May 12	C.	Laleham Road	Scarlet Fever	,,
Mar. 15	E.T.	London Road	,,	,,
July 10	W.S.	Church Street	Erysipelas	,,
Aug. 2	E.S.	,,	,,	,,
Dec. 1	V.D.	Guildford Street	Scarlet Fever	,,
,, 2	F.B.	Thames Street	,,	,,
,, 4	W.L.	Edgell Road	,,	,,
,, 6	F.G.	Shortwood	,,	,,
,, 10	H.L.T.	Fairfield Terrace.	,,	,,
,, 11	F.A.S.	,,	,,	,,
,, 12	J S.	,,	,,	,,
,, 14	A.M.S.	Thames Street	,,	,,
,, 14	W.D.	,,	,,	Died
,, 15	L.S.	Edgell Road	,,	Recovered
,, 15	A.S.	,,	,,	,,
,, 15	A.M.	High Street	,,	,,
,, 18	H S.	Richmond Road	,,	,,
,, 19	A S.	Chestnut Grove	,,	,,
,, 19	Mrs. S.	Richmond Road	,,	,,
,, 20	L.F.L.	Thames Street	,,	Died
,, 20	N.S.	Richmond Road	,,	Died
,, 21	W.	Guildford Street	,,	Died
,, 21	H.S.	Fairfield Terrace	,,	Recovered
,, 22	W.M.	High Street	,,	,,
,, 22	J.S.	Fairfield Terrace	,,	,,
,, 24	J.S.	Edgell Road	,,	,,
,, 29	L.S.	Richmond Road	,,	,,
,, 30	C.	Edgell Road	Diphtheria	,,

ALBERT CURTIS,

Medical Officer of Health.

Table of Deaths during the year 1894, in the Staines Urban District, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. (a)	Mortality from all Causes, at subjoined Ages.							(i)	Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under Five Years of Age.													
	At all ages. (b)	Under 1 year. (c)	1 and under 5. (d)	5 and under 15 (e)	15 and under 25 (f)	25 and under 65 (g)	65 and upwards. (h)		Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Enteric or Typhoid Fever.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhœa & Dysentery.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Injuries.	All Other Diseases.	Total.
The Parish of Staines and Workhouse in the Parish of Stanwell.	61	15	8	1	1	20	16	Under 5	3	..	..	..	..	1	4	..	..	3	..	..	9	20
								5 upwds.	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	6	6	7	1	20	41

Table of Population, Births, and of New Cases of Infectious Sickness, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year 1894, in the Staines Urban District, classified according to Diseases, Ages and Localities.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities. (a)	Population at all Ages.		Registered Births.	Aged under 5 or over 5.	New Cases of Sickness in each Locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.					
	Census 1891. (b)	Estimated to middle of 1894. (c)	(d)	(e)	Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Enteric or Typhoid Fever.	Erysipelas.
The Parish of Staines, and the Workhouse, in the Parish of Stanwell	5060	5186	129	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...
				5 upwds.	—	25	3	—	—	3

State here whether "Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District, *Yes*. Since when? *1890*. State here the name of the Isolation Hospital used by the sick of the District. Mark (H) the Locality in which such Hospital is situated; and if not within the District, state where it is situated. *There is no Hospital for the Isolation of the Sick.* I have no means of ascertaining the ages of the notified cases as there is no column for age on the Certificate.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

https://archive.org/details/b30132782